

# *The* SOUTHEAST NEWS

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Volume 2 - Number 8

MAY, 1954

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## CONVENTION HYMN

***"Christ For the World! We Sing"***

Samuel Wolcott

Christ for the World! we sing;  
The World to Christ we bring,  
With loving zeal; The poor and them that mourn,  
The faint and over-borne, Sin-sick and  
sorrow-worn, Whom Christ doth heal.

Christ for the World! we sing;  
The world to Christ we bring,  
With fervent prayer; the way-word and the lost,  
By restless passions tossed, Redeemed at  
countless cost from dark despair.

Christ for the World! we sing;  
The world to Christ we bring,  
With one accord; With us the work to share,  
With us reproach to bear, With us the cross  
to bear, For Christ our Lord.

Christ for the World! we sing;  
The world to Christ we bring,  
With joyful song; The newborn souls whose doys,  
Reclaimed from error's ways, Inspired with  
hope and praise, To Christ belong.

*Convention Issue*



DR. RUTH ISABEL SEABURY will deliver our keynote address. She is Educational Secretary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, a Christian internationalist and world traveler.



DR. WARREN H. DENISON will also speak to the Convention, and will be guest leader of the Ministers' Fellowship at their luncheon and fellowship meeting. He is one of our foremost authorities on stewardship and church finance.

## THE MODERATOR'S REPORT

by Arnold Slater

Little did I think, when the Convention met a year ago at Pilgrim Church, that one year later I would be writing a statement from the Moderator: but I must confess that the time has sped by very rapidly, and the strides made since then make a thrilling story - a story that cannot be told by the mere process of reporting.

From the very first the contagious enthusiasm of our Superintendent, the Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, and his ready willingness to go beyond the call of duty, impressed all who shared with him the task he envisioned. Thanks to his predecessor, Dr. D. W. Shepherd, the ground-work for co-ordinated effort in the Southeast had been carefully laid. A new phase was truly beginning.

The resignation of our Extension Worker, Miss Loretta Petersen, was accepted with regret and yet, strangely enough, the added responsibility thrust upon the standing committees gave to this larger group a concern and a knowledge of the total program they might not have had otherwise.

At the expense of omitting important developments and paying due tribute to all deserving mention, I want to sketch in brief some of the work accomplished by the Directors through the established committees.

The Committee on Survey and Church Aid, under the fact-finding, graph-drawing chairman, Goff Bedford, did yeoman service. The Trailer Camp under the ministry of the Rev. Porter, near Aiken, S. C., the proposed new church at Nashville; the new fellowships at Douglas and Tifton were all given careful study and support.

In keeping with our tradition, Dr. Thomas Anderson and his committee on Ministry and Church-

es made excellent proposals and have developed a program for our ministers to continue their preparation in leadership. The Convocation at Wadley, May 3-7 will bring Dr. Fred Buschmeyer and Dr. Warren Denison to the area.

Closely related to this concern for the ministry is the interest in the educational institutes-- the Atlanta Seminary Foundation at Vanderbilt School of Religion asked for and received the names of some directors to serve on their Board of Trustees; Southern Union, under the vigorous leadership of Clyde Flannery, gave every evidence of progress. They too asked for three trustees to be elected by the Southeast Convention.

Piedmont College Trustees, a committee from the Southeast Convention (consisting of Rev. Archie Bedford, Rev. Lowell Smoot and Rev. Arnold Slater), met upon the request of Dr. Truman Douglass in Raleigh, N. C., to discuss the situation at the college. Later these three, with Mrs. Jettie Logan and J. T. Gill, met with a group of Piedmont trustees in Atlanta, with Dr. Eldon Mills serving as moderator. Proposals were made, and we await developments.

Without an Extension Worker, the major task fell upon the shoulders of the Committee on Christian Education and Youth Work and its chairman, Rev. John Pickens, Jr. The coming of the Rev. Henry Rust to the area Oct. 19-21 to direct Pilgrim Fellowship workshops will be of tremendous value. John Pickens travelled much and gave of his time generously, but we find ourselves agreeing with him in recognizing that we need more than volunteer leadership to develop this phase of the Convention program.

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# Southeast Convention Over-Subscribes Church Building Loan Fund Campaign

by Lowell A. Smoot, Chairman

A glorious campaign has just come to a successful conclusion. The Southeast Convention has done what many said it could not do. It has pledged more than the \$30,000 for the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign!

When the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches convened in Claremont, Calif., two years ago, enthusiasm ran high among the delegates. A plan which called for the raising of \$4,500,000 for the Church Building Loan Fund of our Church Building Society was placed before the more than 2,500 delegates attending the Council.

When the General Council meets this year in June in New Haven, Conn., the \$4,500,000 goal will have been reached. That, indeed, will be something to "shout" about.

How was this successful conclusion brought about? As you know, the United States was divided into six areas. Our own Southeast Convention was placed in Area III with a goal of \$30,000. The committee of the Southeast Convention met and divided the \$30,000 into local church goals based on the local expenses of the church in 1951.

Your Convention Chairman and the Area Director, Dr. Nelson C. Dreier, visited in every area of the Convention to tell the story and to urge the churches to cooperate and accept the suggested goal. Most of the churches of the Convention saw fit to cooperate. As a result of hard work, travel, prayer and faith we have reached our goal.

But still there are some other churches in the Convention that should have a share in this glorious adventure. If you fail to have a share in this program, you lose a sharing spirit for generations to come. We have achieved a wonderful record here in the Southeast Convention, and certainly you will want to be able to say, "I had a share in it".

I want to personally thank all of you for what you have done. This program is not just raising money. It is helping to make the Church of Jesus Christ available to people. Everyone of us recognized this as a personal responsibility as Christians. When we send the Declaration of Purpose and then begin to pay our share, then we are witnessing to Christ and strengthening His Church. We are building for our children's children and for all generations to come.

Here is the record of the Southeast Convention churches:

## THE ROLL OF HONOR

### Alabama

Alexander City Antioch .....	\$ 10.00
Alexander City Hunt Memorial .....	400.00
Andalusia Antioch .....	300.00



MODERATOR-ELECT SMOOT  
and MODERATOR SLATER

Andalusia Coldwater .....	80.00
Andalusia First .....	590.00
Arley Robertson's Chapel .....	30.00
Birmingham Pilgrim .....	3,200.00
Clanton East View .....	22.00
Dadeville Elder .....	75.00
East Tallassee Liberty .....	320.00
Eclectic Union .....	20.00
Eclectic Watson Chapel .....	100.00
Garden City .....	50.00
Headland Blackwood .....	252.00
Houston Liberty Hill .....	20.00
Lanett Congregational .....	1,482.00
Lanett Highway .....	100.00
Langdale Christian .....	1,600.00
Lineville Spring Hill .....	58.00
Midland City Christian Hill .....	32.00
Moulton Bethlehem .....	30.00
Moulton Mt. Moriah .....	54.00
Mountain Creek Union .....	120.00
Phenix City United .....	960.00
Roanoke First .....	300.00
Roanoke Antioch .....	134.00
Roanoke Bethany .....	74.00
Roanoke Forest Home .....	72.00
Roanoke Lowell .....	300.00
Roanoke New Hope .....	85.00
Roanoke Rock Springs .....	60.00
Roanoke Rock Stand .....	86.00
Seman Balm of Gilead .....	40.00
Seman Community .....	102.00
Shawmut Todd .....	264.00
Steppville Mt. Grove .....	120.00

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## THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

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Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, Supt. ..... Editor  
Rev. C. Carl Dollar ..... Director, Extension Service  
Mrs. Ed. A. Albright ..... Registrar

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## The Moderator's Report

(From page 2)

The Committee on Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education looked to and found genuine leadership in the Rev. Joe French. This committee had to address itself to the task of getting local churches to establish uniform methods for apportionment giving, to meet the national request for 20 cents per member for Per Capita or fellowship dues (with local expense money for the associations and conferences added to this 20 cents per capita), and to prepare some feasible plan whereby the Convention could carry out its program for autonomy and self-support. The visit of Miss Ione Catton and her Mission Institutes met with fine response, and the coming of Dr. Sandstrom this fall to lead Stewardship Training groups for the Every Church Canvass, are expected to help us meet the challenge of local autonomy. In this respect Rev. Carl Dollar has done a fine job in many churches conducting Every Member Canvasses. To complete the third interest of this committee, it has been arranged that the Rev. Ira Black will have an area work-shop on Evangelism next year.

The lack of space prevents mention of all the signs of progress, but we would be derelict in duty if we did not say "thank you" to Moderator-Elect Lowell Smoot, who as Chairman of the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign announces we have met our goal of \$30,000. The visit of Dr. Nelson Dreier was an inspiration, but patient work by Lowell and his energetic committee paid dividends.

The appointment of a Committee on Social Action - the Rev. Carolyn Welch, Richard Drake, and the Rev. Charles Drake; the possibility of acquiring a Convention camp site at Lake Martin (via Mrs. Jettie Logan); the increasing tempo of the Women's Fellowship; the awakening of churches to the benefit of the Laymen's movement; the independent but concerned Gideon Club of Church Builders-- these are but additional evidence that we are entering a new and greatly

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## S. E. Building Loan Fund Campaign

(From page 3)

Tallassee Mt. Olive	200.00
Thorsby United	378.00
Town Creek Liberty	20.00
Trinity Friendship	50.00
Wadley Congregational	200.00
Wadley Beulah	108.00
Wedowee Noonday	144.00

NWFlorida	
Baker Pyron's Chapel	20.00

Georgia	
Atlanta Center	760.00
Atlanta Central	4,276.00
Barnesville Fredonia	384.00
Baxley Friendship	162.00
Chipley Oak Grove	218.00
Columbus First (No. Highland)	550.00
Columbus United	400.00
Demorest Federated	382.00
Doerun New Light	60.00
Doerun Poplar Arbor	24.00
Douglas First	60.00
Enigma Christian	70.00
LaGrange United	1,508.00
Meansville Congregational	82.00
Meansville Liberty Chapel	40.00
Pearson Union Hill	250.00
Richland First	118.00
The Rock Bethany	44.00
Tifton Vanceville	124.00
Waycross Williams Chapel	578.00
Woodbury Jones Chapel	100.00
Charleston, S. C., Circular	500.00

Kentucky	
Corbin Pilgrim	206.00
Evarts Community	336.00
Stearns Community	300.00

Tennessee	
Chattanooga Pilgrim	2,414.00
Crossville First	200.00
Daisy Congregational	534.00
Deer Lodge	26.00
Glenmary	58.00
Robbins Barton Chapel	150.00
Nashville Pilgrim Chapel	200.00
Memphis First	1,108.00
Pleasant Hill Community	760.00
Soddy First	400.00

	\$30,044.00
Kentucky-Tennessee Women	82.00
Individual	5.00

PAYMENTS WITHOUT DECLARATIONS	
Steele Mt. Lebanon	50.00

	\$30,181.00
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There is a possibility that several more churches will have sent in Declarations by the time of the Annual Meeting in Lanett, and if so they will be announced at that time.

# THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

"Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring" - that is the message we bear and the task we share. Our Convention Hymn, written by Samuel Wolcott a century ago, thrills us with a challenge that is ever new, and its phrases speak of both the past and the future of our work here in the Southeast Convention.

"With loving zeal" we have diligently worked to build our churches, our fellowship and Convention organization. And, because of the consecrated efforts and cooperation of many persons in many capacities, our reports show progress in almost every field of endeavor.

Reports from churches indicate that during this year Benevolent giving has increased by \$1,617 while local expenses have increased by \$55,626. If we add to the benevolent figure the 9,346 paid by 64 churches on their Church Building Loan Fund pledges, the comparative figures look more in balance. During this year also six new church buildings were erected, four parsonages, and 62 churches reported improvements to their present properties. These figures are only significant in that they reflect a growing awareness of the church and its task - and a determination to provide the best possible facilities for the advancement of the Kingdom.

One figure gleaned from the church reports has given me much concern and that is the net loss of 344 we sustained in membership. There are several explanations, of course, but regardless of cause it should be a matter of grave concern in the year ahead, for it is the one dark cloud in an otherwise bright sky.

I would covet for all of you the opportunity to witness the advances in churchmanship being made throughout the convention. In this past year it has been my privilege to accept 481 appointments, which brought me into close touch with the larger fellowship, both within and beyond our own denomination; with pastors, people, programs and problems of 103 local churches; and with every aspect of our association, conference, and convention activity. Such a schedule has called for 43,200 miles of travel by car, plane, and train. The slightly more than 38,000 miles traveled in the convention automobile means that if an average speed of 50 miles per hour were maintained, 32 24-hour days were spent in driving around our five state area. Straighten out all those miles and they would make a road that would go one and a half times around the world!

And I'm not the only person at work or traveling in behalf of our churches. The officers, Board of Directors, Convention chairmen and their committees, together with the office and field staff and the leaders of every local church, have formed a strong team and have made an evident impact upon the life of our total fellowship. "Our Christian World Mission" must begin with the individual thoroughly dedicated to the Christian task, radiate throughout the program of every church as a divine imperative, and encircle the globe with hope and love. This is why we rejoice whenever a local church takes a forward step by going "full-time", conducting an Every Member



REV. ERSTON M. BUTTERFIELD

Canvass, or revitalizing its church school program. That is why we share our ideas and successes through the pages of "The Southeast News". That is why we have so many meetings, institutes, retreats, training programs, convocations. Only in the spirit of togetherness can we effectively accomplish "Our Christian World Mission". Together we are perfecting our organization. Together we are building better programs and doing more effective promotion. Together we went "over the top" in the Church Building Loan Fund! Read carefully the excellent reports on the following pages for they bear witness to the breadth of vision and tireless devotion of our leaders. It is my prayer that behind the thousands of miles travelled by staff and committees, the multitudes of meetings, the voluminous letters, that God can also see a kindred devotion, changed lives, inspired minds and hearts among the leaders of our church and a greater courage to venture forth into the unknown with more effective tools and skills.

And so it is "with fervent prayer, with one accord", and "with joyful song" that we would affirm our faith in the future. At this meeting we will take the first steps toward complete autonomy and self support. Through the coming year we will be straining every effort to fulfill "Our Christian World Mission". We will know no discouragement and anticipate no defeat. "Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring".

Erston M. Butterfield

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## NOTICE TO CHURCH REPORTERS

All church news was held over until the June issue of the magazine, to make room for all the reports of officers, staff and committees for the Convention Issue of THE SOUTHEAST NEWS.

Thank you for continuing to send in your news, and we will use all the space necessary to include the news of the churches for two months.

## The Christian Rural Extension Service



REV. C. CARL DOLLAR

During the year I have travelled around 15,000 miles in performance of my varied duties, including a trip to Wisconsin to attend the National Committee on Our Christian World Mission and a trip to Minnesota to attend the National Convocation on the Church in Town and Country.

I have visited 57 of our churches (some more than once) and have preached 30 times in these churches, besides attending other gatherings in them and assisting them with pastoral procurement and other services. In 14 of these churches I have shown our Missions Council films on stewardship and missions. For eight of them I have conducted stewardship institutes and trained visitors for an every member canvass. I was asked to conduct institutes on evangelism in three of them.

I have assisted in the planning of our summer youth conferences and with the teaching, and have met with the committee that is planning a course of study for ministers and ministerial candidates, being at the present in the process of outlining one of the courses for presentation in the training program.

Conferring with churches seeking ministers and ministers interested in making changes has been a duty which has claimed a good bit of my time. A goodly group of men have been licensed to preach and some have been ordained, and this has helped out wonderfully in a situation which looked pretty bad a year ago. I have been pleased to assist in some of these services of ordination and licensure.

Invitations have come to speak in some of the women's rallies. I want to commend the women's organization in the area for the splendid job being done. It is also quite encouraging that our laymen are more and more realizing that they too can work together for a more effective job through the church. I meet regularly with the East Alabama West Georgia Laymen, and with

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## Pilgrim Fellowship Report



MILLARD FULLER

Pilgrim Fellowship in the Southeast is on the upward climb. It is meaning more not only to the young people, but we do believe that some of the older folks are beginning to ask, "What is this Pilgrim Fellowship?" We have been in hopes for several years that the older folks would take some active interest in our fellowship. This year the Committee on Youth Work has been working overtime, trying to get the program of PF on the road. We have had some wonderful week-end camps, we have had ten youth retreats and five summer camps. I was not able to attend all these activities, but I have received many fine reports from many of our churches. As I look over the list of camps for this summer I can see that "every year is getting better and better".

The most exciting news, however, is the possibility of our own camp site at Lake Martin, Ala. Due to the efforts of a few interested people, a fond dream is soon to be a reality, we hope. This should be a challenge to us Young People of the Southeast-- it will give us the opportunity of having our very own youth camp. We can do it if we want to, but not without effort on our part.

Another big time that is coming up will be the meeting of the National Council of Pilgrim Fellowship, which will be held this year at New Haven, Conn., June 23-30. We are allowed four delegates from the Southeast Convention and I certainly hope that we can send these delegates.

I wish to thank the Christian Education and Youth Work Committee for the fine work they have done to help us young people. John Pickens has been doing a lot of running around trying to meet with any group that needs help. This means a lot to the young people and I hope that whatever time or money you have given to help the young people, the results will prove that it was a good investment. I would like to see each church in our Convention have at least one Pilgrim Fellowship group. How to get one started? A beginning may be made through any youth activity

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## The Women's Fellowship

What causes that cloud of dust floating over the Southeast? It is the industrious women "Rejoicing in Their Tasks" as they fulfill their purpose of "cultivating the spirit of Christ", beginning in their own life, and extending throughout the community, nation and world".

Happy First Anniversary to the Southeast Women's Fellowship! It was just a year ago that Mrs. T. L. Cunningham was elected the first President. In September Mrs. Cunningham called a meeting of the three state presidents, the conference and association presidents to meet with Mrs. Pearl Hemingway, Resource Leader, to co-ordinate the work of the Women's Fellowship in the Southeast. It was at this meeting that the resignation of the president was regretfully accepted. (The convened group recommended that the Board of Directors appoint a successor. Mrs. Lowell A. Smoot, Alabama state president, was named chairman to fill the unexpired term.)

The consensus of the group was that the Southeast president should act as coordinator between states, convention office and national offices, especially in securing outside speakers and in program planning. As a result of these suggestions, in January Georgia and Alabama had a missionary speaker, Miss Edith Douglas, who visited in five Georgia and eight Alabama churches. Miss Marguerite Bicknell spoke in the Kentucky-Tennessee churches. A uniform listing of program materials will be used throughout the area, thus uniting us in our endeavors.

Mrs. David W. Shepherd of Georgia and Mrs. Lowell A. Smoot of Alabama attended the Mid-Winter Meeting of the state presidents in Cleveland, Ohio. This meeting provides a time for interchange of workable ideas, inspiration, and gathering of program materials.

The women were represented at the "Christian World Mission Institutes" conducted by Miss Ione Catton. Most of the women have been doing Friendly Service work since time began, but we discovered Our Christian Mission to mean more than "a box of used clothing".

The president represented the Women's Fellowship on two occasions: 1) At the Southeast Regional Meeting held at Avon Park, Florida. This inter-racial meeting afforded opportunities of enlightenment on the Church Extension Work throughout the area; 2) At Tallahassee, Alabama, with the special committee considering a camp site for the Southeast Convention.

The Spring Rallies were super this year! Mary Elliot will long be remembered by the women of Georgia and Alabama for her warm friendship so graciously shared, her inspiration, and her challenge to each of us to "put legs on our ideas" and go to work in our fellowships. The Kentucky-Tennessee women were especially fortunate in having Dr. Paul Reynolds as their leader.

"Rejoicing in our Tasks", of course, the busier we are the more time for the Lord's work. Jesus did not ask lazy persons to be disciples! No, His first followers were fishing, mending nets, collecting money. That the women also have been can be seen from glowing reports of quiltings, bake sales, chicken suppers, beautifying the church

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## Laymen's Progress - 1954

The report to our Convention in May 1953 included this comment: "We look to the future with much enthusiasm and desire for greater success, to insure this success planning is being done." Most thankfully this report includes a good measure of success, progress and growth.

At our Laymen's session during last year's Convention, better organization was affected with the adoption of a Constitution and election of officers. An offering was received for promotional work. Later at the Convention banquet we were presented with a Fellowship Bell by Walter Graham, for our use in the Southeast.

Several mailings have been sent out by the President to key laymen and copies of our handbooks distributed to several new groups. Your President has traveled approximately 4200 miles during the year in the interest and promotion of laymen's work.

The state organizations and their leaders have been busy promoting new clubs and revitalizing some in need of help. More Schools of Churchmanship are in the planning and contacts with churches needing organization are being made. Laymen's Day services are increasing with more participation by laymen.

The Central Alabama Association Laymen's organization is growing. Key men from this area have attended the Retreat and School of Churchmanship preparing for the future. The East Alabama-West Georgia Men's Fellowship continues strong. Their president, Rufus Farrar, attended the Mid-Winter Meetings in Cleveland, our first representative from the Southeast. Attendance at quarterly meetings has been good, providing fellowship for many men from Churches not yet organized. Ladies' night at Southern Union College was attended by about 175 laymen, their wives and guests. There is so much that can be done in our associations by organized men, and we hope for growth in our work in all areas and are continually exerting every effort to that end.

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MRS. SMOOT and HERMAN COOK



**Miss Margaret Hargrove**, guest speaker and leader for the Women's Fellowship, is National Secretary of Woman's Work for the Congregational Christian Churches. During the reports from the fellowships period, Miss Hargrove will address the Convention.

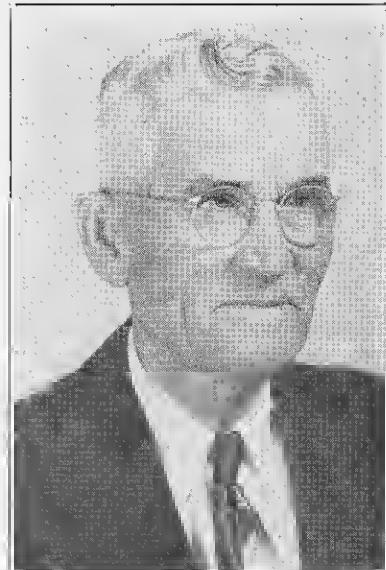
Miss Hargrove's portfolio includes the organization and direction of over 700,000 Congregational Christian women in 45 State Conferences from coast to coast. In addition, she carries major responsibility for publications in the field of women's work and editorship of **GUIDE POSTS**, the national program guide.

A former college Dean, Professor and National Red Cross Executive, Miss Hargrove took over her national post with the Congregational Christian Churches in 1951 because she felt that "the church has a most important role to play in the modern world." She was in academic work for 20 years, both as a teacher and a Dean.

Simplicity and earnestness, mixed with humor and the human touch, characterize Miss Hargrove who is a Ph.D., but prefers being called "Miss" or "Doctor."

Margaret Hargrove feels that women should take their places in church work on the basis of qualification and not just because they are women. "Women's work in the church is not something separate, but rather a part of the total church," she declares. "I like to think of men and women as citizens of the Commonwealth of God with equal rights and equal responsibilities." She believes women should be informed in the field of politics and exercise intelligently their privilege of voting.

A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Miss Hargrove attended the public schools of that state and graduated from Randolph-Macon Woman's College. She took graduate work at Cornell University and additional studies at the University of Wisconsin, University of Virginia and Columbia University.



**Rev. John D. Dollar**, of Lanett, Alabama, is the Convention Chaplain for all Worship Services during the Convention program.

He is well-known and beloved for his 47 years of service in the ministry. Although he retired in December, 1952, he has been serving for the past year as supply pastor of the Roanoke, Rock Springs Church, preaching two Sundays each month and leading the congregation in an improvement program and a campaign to raise funds for three additional Sunday School rooms to be added to the present building.

**Dr. Ruth Isabel Seabury** (photo on page 2) has recently returned from a four months' visit to Africa which is now one of the most critical areas of the world. In her visit, Miss Seabury tried to understand the tensions there and get the point of view of African Church Leaders.

Every five years or oftener, Miss Seabury has been overseas as delegate to world conferences, or as a visitor to the Christian churches and colleges overseas.

She is in demand as a speaker before educational and interdenominational groups. Nowadays, she spends much of her time on campuses and in conferences of college and university students.

Miss Seabury has been called "an internationalist by instinct" because of her desire to interpret world events from a Christian standpoint and is, therefore, often on the road speaking from pulpit and platform, leading youth discussions and study groups with pastors and adult lay workers.

Miss Seabury has written several books directed toward a better understanding of the World Mission of Christianity, among them **DINABANDHU**, **FLIGHT TO DESTINY**, and **DAUGHTER OF AFRICA**.

A graduate of Smith College, she has the honorary degrees of Litt. D. and L.H.D. Because of her dynamic, incisive and courageous presentations, Miss Seabury has acquired the reputation of being "one of the people who make a difference."

In addition to presenting the Keynote address, Miss Seabury will discuss the mission study books for next year during the fellowship report period.



**Walter A. Graham**, Executive Secretary of the National Layman's Fellowship with headquarters in Pembroke, Ky., needs no introduction to the Southeast Convention. He will be the guest speaker and leader for the Laymen's Fellowship session.

In addition to his travel and promotion of the Layman's Fellowship, Mr. Graham also edits **THE FELLOWSHIP**, monthly publication of the laymen.

He has given generously of his time in helping with the organization of the laymen in the Southeast Convention and has spoken at many of the laymen's meetings during the past several years.

**Dr. Warren H. Denison** (photo on Page 2) of Grinnell, Iowa, is one of our outstanding authorities on stewardship and church finance. He will speak on "Christian Stewardship" on Saturday evening, May 15. Dr. Denison brings to us a rich experience of more than 35 years, and demonstrates how giving can become a powerful spiritual experience in the life of the church. It is our good fortune to share with him in this experience.

During the Ministers' Convocation in Wadley May 3-7, Dr. Denison also presented a series of lectures to the ministers on the financial organization of a church, the Christian basis for Stewardship, and the practical methods of promoting the Every Member Canvass.

During the Ministers' Fellowship session on Saturday, May 15, Dr. Denison will speak on the Minister Himself, the Minister and His Church, the Minister Facing His Task and other interesting phases of the minister's work.

Dr. Denison travels constantly and is in great demand as a speaker on stewardship. He has recently been conducting a series of meetings for the Church Building Fund Campaign throughout the country.

**Dr. A. R. Van Cleave**, the popular Dean of Southern Union College, will be Toastmaster at the Banquet Session on Saturday night.

At this time the program will consist of "Reports from the Field," a series of five to eight minute talks including "New Factors in Education", "Trailer City", "New New Effort", "Our Oldest Church" and "Our Newest Church".

**Mrs. Jettie Logan**, new promotion chairman for **THE SOUTHEAST NEWS** will speak; and the **Rev. W. C. Carpenter** will tell us about the Church Builders Club.



**Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer**, nationally known Congregational Christian churchman and Associate Minister of the General Council, was the guest lecturer for the Ministers' Convocation and School at Southern Union College.

With one of his major responsibilities the heading up of the important Commission on the Ministry, Dr. Buschmeyer is actually a pastor-at-large to the approximately 375 Congregational Christian young people studying for the ministry in more than a dozen theological seminaries scattered throughout the United States.

He also serves in a similar capacity to the 115 Congregational Christian ministers who are serving as Chaplains with the United States Armed Forces, both in this country and abroad, and has just returned from an extended visit to these chaplains.

Another phase of Dr. Buschmeyer's wide pastoral service has to do with the gathering of material and publication of handbooks on the ministry including material to assist churches and pastors in recruiting young people for the Christian ministry.

A successful pastor before being called to his present post, Dr. Buschmeyer filled pulpits in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Washington, D. C., prior to becoming Associate Minister of the General Council.

Dr. Buschmeyer was for six years on the Executive Committee of the General Council, part of the time as chairman. He also served as a committee chairman for the Council for Social Action and the Committee on War Victims and Reconstruction.

A native Californian, Dr. Bueschmeyer attended the University of Southern California. He completed his graduate work in Theology at Boston University, and has honorary degrees of Litt. D. and D. D.

## Ministry and Churches

Within the Convention there are 120 churches; 113 ordained clergymen, 53 of whom are in active pastorates, and 22 licentiates. During the past year ten people were received into ministerial standing in the Convention, four from other Congregational Christian Conferences, two from other Protestant Communions, and four by Ordination within Convention, Associations and Conferences. Four ordination services were held during the year and one new church, Pilgrim Chapel of Nashville, was admitted into the fellowship of the Convention.

The work of the Committee on Ministry and Churches is outlined in our Constitution as follows: "It shall be the duty of this Committee to initiate, plan and promote Convention-wide Convocations, Retreats, and Conferences for ministers; suggest procedures and standards relative to ordination and licensure; develop and administer Courses of Study for the training of lay preachers; advance a program of recruitment for Christian Service and assist the Superintendent in matters of ministerial placement and pastor-church relationships. It shall survey the needs and promote the aid of retired and disabled ministers and their dependents in cooperation with the Division of Ministerial Relief, and shall endeavor to enroll all eligible ministers in the Annuity Fund of our fellowship."

That this is a large order is readily seen. Time will be required to fill all its demands. Thus far the Committee has concentrated on the following aspects of its total responsibility—A) Suggestions concerning standards for ordination and licensure. B) Initiating, planning and promoting Convention-wide Convocations, Retreats and Conferences for Ministers. And C) Develop Courses of Study for the training of lay preachers.

The efforts of this Committee have resulted in definite proposals which will be submitted for vote at this session, along with several recommendations.

*(Please turn to page 13)*



DR. THOS. ANDERSON

## Survey and Church Aid

The four objectives of this committee are: 1) to bring the churches of the Southeast to a point where they can sustain an effective, well-trained minister, either singly or in units; 2) to advance an adequate plan and program of church extension; 3) to help churches realize their needs and find solutions to their problems; and 4) to develop a program of inter-denominational cooperation.

In order to bring you up to date on our various projects, as well as to indicate the kind of activity in which we are engaged, let's look at some of our churches across the Convention.

The program begun at Circular Church in Charleston four years ago has continued at a rapid pace. Because of the special needs, the Home Board and the Convention have shared in the venture maintaining a high level of support instead of following the usual procedure of decreasing the amount of aid each year. Under the plan all aid is to be discontinued in June of 1955. With the needed strong support during these first critical years, the church has rapidly regained its strength under the leadership of Archie B. Bedford. The membership has grown from 64 to 159 at last report—the largest membership since 1878!

Our major new church project, and one which has occupied much time and effort, is the high-potential project in the Brookmeade section of Nashville. Talmage Hartman has served as pastor during this first year and has given real leadership in the establishment of the new church. The Board of Home Missions is sharing heavily in this project and, with proper cooperative action, this next year should see the formation of a strong church which will add much to our total fellowship as well as to our knowledge of techniques and methods of church extension in the South.

Other aided and new church situations which are continuing to gain strength include: First Church of Andalusia under the leadership of Edward Knight; Hunt Memorial in Alexander City with M. O. Worley as pastor; First Church of Tifton, with the help of a loan from the Church Building Department, is located in the church building formerly occupied by the Methodists with Ralph Worley as full-time minister; Douglas First is presently engaged in a building program under the leadership of its first full-time pastor, W. C. Carpenter; and West Point Bethel, also building, with Lynwood Hubbard as full-time minister.

Aid has also been continued on a decreasing scale to Garden City and Thorsby, Alabama and the North Alabama and Northwest Florida Parishes. Besides these special projects, your committee has maintained helpful contacts with promising situations like Todd Church at Shawmut, Mt. Olive at Tallassee, and the Doerun-New Light Parish.

As we move forward toward autonomy and self-support, your Survey and Church Aid committee will continue to be at the beck and call of any church needing its services and will strive to be alert to all valid opportunities for church extension. We are most grateful for the support of the Board of Home Missions and will strive to be worthy of their confidence.

*(Please turn to page 15)*

## Evangelism, Stewardship, and Missionary Education Committee

The purpose of this committee has been to organize on the Convention, Association and local church levels for the promotion of a vigorous emphasis on these three essential areas of an effective church program. It is our hope so to stimulate and motivate interest in these three areas of the primary function of the church that our whole program at all levels may thereby be strengthened.

For achieving this purpose the committee has formulated a three-year program of objectives in the following statements:

1. Every church understanding, appreciating and participating in Our Christian World Mission.
2. Every minister participating in the Convention program of Evangelism, Stewardship, and Missionary Education.
3. In every Association and Conference a vigorous, functioning Committee on Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education.
4. A representative functioning committee in every local church.
5. Every church increasing its membership by 25%.
6. Every church winning and training new church members through a definite program of:
  - A. Visitation Evangelism
  - B. Pastor's Training Class
7. Every church making a definite annual budget to include:
  - A. Local Expenses (Ourselves)
  - B. Our Christian World Mission (Others)
8. Every church increasing its giving sufficiently to make the Southeast Convention self-supporting.
9. Every church strengthening its Christian stewardship program through an Every Member Canvass.
10. 1500 subscribers to the SOUTHEAST NEWS.

On the Convention and Association levels, much has been done along the line of organization, study, planning and promoting. The majority of our local churches have done very little, if anything to all, in improving their approach to these subjects and for making them topics for Christian concern in study and action.

So broad and far-reaching in their consequences are these three fields of the church program, and the achievements of the Southeast Convention churches in these activities have been so limited, thus increasing the responsibility upon us, that your committee has sometimes been at a loss as to what was most important. Immediate pressure has, therefore, dictated some of our efforts but we have not thereby lost sight of the long range program and its permanent objectives.

Literature on the three subjects has been provided for each of the annual sessions of Conferences and Associations. Attention has been called to the literature display and in each case a generous amount of material has been taken by delegates.

An Every Member Canvass skit, "Money for the Lord's Work" was prepared by Miss Carolyn Welch,  
(Please turn to page 15)

## Christian Education and Youth Work

Immediately after the Chattanooga meeting of the Convention, the Committee on Christian Education and Youth Work dug in and got busy. We have had some wonderful meetings! There was the June 16 meeting when we drew up plans for the year's work. It was at this meeting that we received word that Miss Petersen had tendered her resignation as director of Christian Education. Miss Petersen has been missed during the year in more ways than one. Due to her resignation, the Christian Education and Youth Work Committee was asked to assume many of the duties of that office until another worker could be secured. Then, in September, the committee was called together for the best meeting of the year. Miss Mildred Widbur, National Christian Education worker from our Board of Home Missions, came to us for two days of planning. We projected a long-range program including definite plans for Leadership Training Schools to begin this fall. At these training schools we will attempt to provide practical helps for all local church leaders in the field of Christian Education. These schools will help us develop stronger, more effective church school programs as well as assist in strengthening our home and church relationship. It is our hope that before long we will have in every one of our churches an active committee on Christian Education and the work of youth.

As the committee on Christian Education, desiring to be of the most possible service to the churches, we would like to ask you who help draw up the plans for association and conference programs that we be given more time to bring to our people helps and materials that can aid them in their local task. We also feel that there is a great lack of mission study in most of our Sunday Schools. Accordingly, we would strongly recommend use of "The Project of the Month" as suggested by Armstrong Hunter in ADVANCE magazine.

Many of you are acquainted with the ten goals



THE REVERENDS GOFF BEDFORD, JOE FRENCH and JOHN PICKENS

## Pilgrim Fellowship Report

(From page 6)

which is a part of the church program. For the development of a truly effective program, every church needs the following: 1) A minister who is concerned for the young people in his church; 2) A Christian Education Committee which plans as thoroughly for the young people as for children; 3) A congregation that cares; 4) A few keen, dependable, key young people who can be helped and are willing to help others.

There are many more things that could be said as to the needed tools. If your PF group needs help, write to John Pickens and his Committee on Christian Education and Youth Work. He and his committee are interested in young people and understand their needs. It has been a wonderful year for the young people. I am sorry that due to the time I must spend in college, I have been unable to do what I would like to do for our Pilgrim Fellowship. But, look kids, keep pushing our program. It is something worth all the effort we can put into it. We can and will build better PF's all through the Convention. May God bless each one that works in, for and with our Church of tomorrow. We hope that includes every one of you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Millard Fuller, President

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as set up by your Convention committee and we strongly urge every local church to make these goals a basis for discussion and planning. They are:

1. That every teacher in every church school spend at least one hour weekly in preparation for the class session.
2. That every teacher call in the home of each pupil at least once a year.
3. That the Sunday School session begin promptly with all officers and teachers present at least ten minutes ahead of time.
4. That every Sunday School have a well-planned worship service rather than opening exercises.
5. That the Church and the church school rooms be clean and neat.
6. That every church have a separate class for the pre-school children.
7. That every church have separate classes for young people and adults.
8. That every class in the church school give support to the church and Our Christian World Mission.
9. That every church try to make the best use of present space and plan to provide more adequate room to suit growing needs.
10. Each church keeping this committee informed as to their church school program.

Remember, this committee stands ready to give every possible assistance to any local church striving to achieve these goals.

During this year, I as chairman of the committee, have tried to serve you and the church. It has been very heart-warming to have the honor of dropping in on many of you and assisting whenever possible to strengthen the total program of Christian Education and youth work. Because of

## Christian Rural Extension Service

(From page 6)

the Ministerial Fellowship of East Alabama-West Georgia, serving as secretary-treasurer of the latter group.

I believe that we are surely, though perhaps quite slowly, increasing in improved churchmanship. More and more of our churches are asking for some help in stewardship and evangelism training. The churches that are adopting more systematic practices in church program and financing are an encouragement and challenge to other churches, so that the idea is gaining in momentum. Since beginning my work in the area, about 24 churches have asked me to assist in stewardship education and every member canvasses. Almost without exception they have come through with over-subscribed budgets. This is encouraging just now, since we are thinking in terms of self-support in the Convention.

Miss Ione Catton, program secretary for missionary education, Missions Council, spent two weeks in our area early in this year. I was her escort to the different area meetings which she visited and can testify that she did us much good. My only regret is that more of our churches were not represented at the meetings. Those who did attend expressed themselves as certainly having seen the mission of the church in a more interesting and challenging light.

Our biggest job is still ahead of us; namely, that of achieving autonomy. It is a worthy and a necessary goal. The Convention staff and committees are not going to be able to do the task alone, but will need the whole-hearted help and cooperation of all our ministers and church people.

Things are definitely "looking up" in our area. We are beginning to understand the meaning of Our Christian World Mission. What is needed is for all those of us who get a vision of our task to think of it as a personal responsibility.

Respectfully submitted,  
C. Carl Dollar

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the wonderful work that you of the Convention are doing and the cooperation that you are giving, our volunteer committee has been able to accomplish much—but before long we must have a full-time worker to take care of your growing appeals for help.

As chairman of the Convention committee, it was my privilege to attend the Mid-Winter Meetings at Cleveland. I have returned with many new ideas and thoughts that I believe will help us even more as we continue to grow in our building for the Kingdom.

The report of the president of Pilgrim Fellowship presents what our committee has done in regards to the youth program. We have had some wonderful times this past year with our young people. Besides the summer camp and conference program, we assisted in five week-end camps and ten retreats. This work with our young people is a wonderful work, and of the utmost importance. Just think of the job that we share in helping to train "the church of tomorrow."

Respectfully submitted,  
John E. Pickens, Jr., Chairman

# THE TREASURER'S REPORT

## Income

Funds for operating the Southeast Convention office are received from the Board of Home Missions of the Congregational Christian Churches. A yearly budget (June 1 thru May 31) is set up by the Convention Board of Directors, the Superintendent, and a representative from the Board of Home Missions. After the budget is approved, a monthly check is sent to the Convention.

During the year, as special needs arise, other appropriations are made and designated for these special needs.

### I. Income for year ending May 31, 1954

#### A. From Board of Home Missions

1. Approved budget .....	\$24,265.00
2. Missionary Aid to Churches .....	3,880.00
3. Special appropriations .....	12,113.00
4. Added appropriations .....	9,155.00
B. From other sources (Apr. 30) .....	3,719.00
C. From Churches (April 30) .....	19,181.00

Total Income ..... \$72,213.00

## Disbursements

Funds are disbursed under the supervision of the Treasurer, Walter L. Jackson, as authorized by the Board of Directors and the Superintendent. Financial statements are given to the Board regularly, and an audit by a Certified Public Accountant is made annually.

### I. Disbursements thru April 30, 1954

#### A. Board Home Missions appropriations

1. Approved budget .....	\$22,976.00
2. Missionary Aid to Churches .....	4,897.00
3. Special appropriations .....	10,946.00
4. Added appropriations .....	8,915.00

Projected disbursements, May ..... 3,145.00

B. Other disbursements ..... 5,866.00

C. Money from Churches ..... \$56,745.00

1. Our Christian World Mission	
Nat'l Boards & Agencies .....	9,237.00
State work, designated .....	2,917.00

..... \$12,154.00

2. General Council, PCDues ..... 1,958.00

Projected Total Disbursements ..... \$70,857.00

## Notice

A detailed mimeographed report is available upon request for those who would like detailed information regarding income and disbursements.

Respectfully submitted,  
Walter L. Jackson, Treasurer  
Montez Albright, Asst. Treasurer

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## One Great Hour of Sharing

### ALABAMA

Wadley Congregational .....	58.20
Langdale Congregational Christian .....	11.00
Baker, Good Hope (Florida) .....	7.92
Thorsby, United .....	44.23
Headland, Blackwood .....	15.24
Individual .....	1.00



WALTER JACKSON, Treasurer, and  
MONTEZ ALBRIGHT, Asst. Treas.

### GEORGIA

Atlanta Central .....	124.00
Atlanta Center .....	57.90
Demorest, Federated .....	86.00
Chipley, Oak Grove .....	14.00
Columbus, First (No. Highland) .....	17.85
Tifton, First .....	7.55
Vanceville Congregational Christian .....	13.46
Pearson Union Hill .....	9.74
Waycross, Williams Chapel .....	11.00

### KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

Chattanooga Pilgrim .....	89.00
Crossville, First .....	50.00
Daisy Congregational .....	15.00
Evarts, First .....	57.79
Pleasant Hill Community .....	88.20

..... \$779.08

There may have been other churches participating in this nation-wide project, and if additional reports and checks are received they will be reported in a later issue of the magazine.

In 1953 twelve churches participated, with a total giving of \$536.56.

### “BE THEIR MILKMAN”

Reported to date on this project:

Garden City .....	\$ 9.41
Steppville, Mt. Grove .....	6.00
Evarts, First .....	10.00

..... \$25.41

### MINISTRY AND CHURCHES

(From page 10)

The efforts of the Committee in relation to responsibilities “B” and “C” have resulted in the holding, during the period from May 3 to May 7 of a Convocation for Ministers at Southern Union College, Wadley, Alabama, and the institution at

## Southeast News Report

As you know, the primary purpose for THE SOUTHEAST NEWS is to give information to the ministers and people of the Southeast Convention on all programs and projects of the Convention. It is also a means of sharing the hopes and successes of each church with the other churches of the Convention, so that we may all know each other better and be aware of progress being made.

The magazine receives a subsidy of \$500 per year in our budget, and this with the funds received from subscriptions is supposed to cover the total cost of the magazine.

Unfortunately, this has not been true in the past two years. Subscriptions have not come in as well as was anticipated. At the present time (April 30) we have a total of 562 subscribers. We had in January more than 600, but since that time there have been 300 expirations and 140 of these have not renewed.

We are faced with two alternatives—either getting 500 more subscribers within the next few months, or cutting the magazine to eight pages for each issue. This will mean cutting down substantially on the news from the churches—and we believe this to be a vital part of the magazine.

Having so many photographs is expensive too, but certainly adds to the appearance and the interest of the magazine.

Did you know that "Facts From the Field" has picked up and used material from our magazine? Last month "Facts From the Field" used the story on our Ministers' Convocation, a story about the Christian Rural Extension Service, and a quote from Richard Drakes' article in the February issue. ADVANCE magazine occasionally requests permission to use photographs and material from our magazine, and just recently we received a request from the Missions Council Church Calendar Service to use the photograph of the three generations of ministers—Herbert N. A., and Samuel Long—in the April issue.

We exchange our magazine with about twelve other Conference publications—from Maine to California. This is good public relations for the Southeast Convention with other conferences. We also send it free to a number of denominational officials in New York, Boston and Chicago.

—Montez Albright

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that time of a School for ministers and people desiring to prepare for the ministry.

The Committee took note of the need for a personal counsellor for each licensee looking toward ordination—for a "Father in Israel," as it were—and recommends the appointment of an ordained man to be the personal Counsellor of each licensee in the Convention.

The Committee also recommends a Service of Recognition of people entering the ministry in the Convention by transfer at each Conference or Association next following their arrival in the church to be served. The Committee recommends that candidates for licensure shall be similarly recognized during the program of Association or Conferences as the case may be. An outline of

such a service is available from the Committee or from the Convention office.

Recognizing the great importance of an ordination service the Committee recommends that the Convention establish a rule that in each case where an ordination is to occur the local church confer with the Superintendent or the Committee on Ministry and Churches relative to procedures and program. This is particularly desirable in order that all such services shall be uniform and mean the most to the candidate, the local church, the ordaining council and the community in which the ordination occurs.

The Committee wishes to report that Certificates or Ordination, Licensure and Recognition are available for delivery to all qualifying for them and recommends that such certificates be delivered as a part of the service of Ordination, Licensure or Recognition, by the Moderator of the occasion, or the Superintendent, or by a member of the Committee on Ministry and Churches.

Wallet cards of ministerial identification are available and are to be mailed annually from the Convention office to each person listed on the records of the Convention as being in good standing as an ordained or licensed clergyman.

The Committee wishes to report that the sum of \$150 each year for five years has been obtained for the training of ministers in the Convention by Dr. James A. Fraser, a member of the Committee, from a friend of his.

The Committee reports that \$500 was received from the Board of Home Missions to aid with the expenses incident to the first Ministers' Convocation and School.

The Committee recommends that resolutions of appreciation be sent to both Dr. Fraser and the donor; to the Board of Home Missions and Dr. Stanley U. North; and that a vote of appreciation and gratitude be extended to the following for their willingness to cooperate without financial remuneration in the first Convocation and Ministers' School: The President and Board of Trustees of Southern Union College, Professors Carl H. Landes, and William C. Bennett, Rev. Carl Dollar, Rev. Guy L. Colbert, Mrs. Herman Patterson, Supt. Erston M. Butterfield, Dr. Warren H. Denison, and Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer.

It is the plan of the Committee to pursue the additional aspects of its responsibilities as rapidly as time and resources permit.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas Anderson, Chairman

### THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

(From page 7)

property, collecting used clothing, sewing, and many other tasks. But the women didn't forget the most important part—the spiritual emphasis. Requests for packet materials have steadily increased, the denominational film "The Hidden Heart" was widely used, and many groups participated in the World Day of Prayer.

When the Woman's Gift is placed on the altar at General Council in June, we will be sharing in the Christian concern of women across the nation. It is heartening to note that more societies are

participating in this phase of our work.

It has been a gratifying experience to work with the women of the Southeast, and to witness the eagerness with which they bring the Spirit of Christ into the home, community, nation and world. Yes, we must "go on our way rejoicing, ever, ever more".

Respectfully submitted,  
(Mrs.) Mary Margaret Smoot

#### **LAYMEN'S PROGRESS - 1954**

*(From page 7)*

On the local church level we have our largest number of clubs to date with at least 20 known clubs and perhaps more as there are areas where we have not had contacts or reports. One of the clubs organized during the year is at East Tallasee Church and they should have a bright future under the leadership of G. F. Logan. Others organized or revitalized are Oak Grove, Chipley, Ga.; Highway Church, Lanett, Ala.; Beulah Church, Wadley, Ala.; First Church, Columbus, Ga.; and Circular Church, Charleston, S. C.

Our annual retreat was held at Southern Union College and was attended by 25 laymen and ministers. Retreats provide excellent training and congenial fellowship. Our first school of Churchmanship was held in October. Practically all areas were represented as 90 laymen and ministers spent a profitable afternoon and evening together. Plans are in progress for more than one school this year.

Wonderful cooperation and leadership has been given us by Walter Graham, our National Director. We extend to him our sincere thanks. Materials from our national office have been more widely used by laymen this year. The cooperation of our Convention staff has been equally as good. We are progressing together.

Our plans for the year ahead should insure continued growth. During our Laymen's Seminar we anticipate the adoption of several items that will greatly strengthen us and our Convention.

We welcome all laymen of the great Southeast into a more effective fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Herman D. Cook

#### **MISSIONARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

*(From page 11)*

assisted by the Rev. C. Carl Dollar, and was presented at the annual sessions of the Associations and Conferences. It was very well received and evidently made quite a favorable impression on behalf of Christian stewardship. Each Moderator was asked to include the work of our committee on the annual program in some form and needed information was given about the work of the committee.

Your committee was most fortunate to have Miss Ione Catton spend the first two weeks of February on an itinerary which covered the entire Convention with three session institutes on Our Christian World Mission. In eleven centrally located churches Miss Catton held institutes to which near-by churches were asked to send representatives. The Rev. C. Carl Dollar assisted Miss

Catton in these meetings. While here Miss Catton also had opportunity to speak in Chapel at Southern Union College to the East Alabama ministers, and to meet with the committee for a very profitable study and planning session in Atlanta. Your committee is asking every church in the Convention to elect a committee on Our Christian World Mission.

With this session of the Convention your committee is beginning aggressive promotion of plans for an Every Church Canvass between now and October. In September we will have a series of Stewardship Institutes over the Convention to which selected people from all our churches will be invited to come. With the prospect of the Convention becoming self-supporting, we must redouble our efforts in Christian Stewardship.

In the matter of Evangelism, your committee planned to have a series of institutes in the Convention, but because of complications we were unable to have them. It is expected that next year we will be able to arrange to give more attention to this vital part of our church program.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joe A. French, Chairman

#### **SURVEY AND CHURCH AID**

*(From page 10)*

In conclusion, the Survey and Church Aid Committee finds that there has never been a time when the Congregational Christian Churches of the Convention have been better housed, better financed or better led than they are today. We must look forward to strengthening our new churches and building up the old. We should be thinking seriously about new churches in Montgomery, Augusta-Aiken, Albany and a half-dozen other fast growing areas. Too long has the Congregational Christian movement tried to hold its own without taking forward steps. We have a scriptural message of religious freedom and love, and a liberal movement based on fundamental Christianity. The South needs this message, so we of the Congregational Christian Churches are faced with a great obligation as well as a great opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,  
Goff Bedford, Chairman

#### **MODERATOR'S REPORT**

*(From page 4)*

expanding program. If our Superintendent can get the support he needs and must have from all of us, we may amaze even ourselves.

I would be amiss if I did not bring to your attention, if that is necessary, the incredible amount of work and supervision given to the whole plan of progress by Mrs. Montez Albright.

Let us with due humility yet with the vision of spiritual adventurers seek God's blessing and wisdom as we march steadily forward. I count it an honor to have served as your moderator. Let me urge you to respond to the opportunity awaiting our fellowship in this developing area of the South.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E.  
Atlanta, Georgia

Entered as Second Class

# Program

## Southeast Convention Annual Meeting

Lanett Congregational Christian Church

Lanett, Alabama

May 15 and 16, 1954

Theme: "Our Christian World Mission"

### Saturday, May 15 (E.S.T.)

9:30 A. M.—Registration and Fellowship  
10:15 A. M.—Call to Order by Moderator, the Rev. Arnold Sloter  
Opening Worship conducted by the Chaplain, the Rev. John D. Dollar  
10:45 A. M.—Business Session  
11:15 A. M.—Keynote address: Dr. Ruth I. Seabury - "Our Christian World Mission"  
12:30 A. M.—Simultaneous Luncheon meetings:  
WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - Mary M. Smoot, presiding; Miss Margaret Hargrave, guest speaker.  
LAYMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - Herman Caak, presiding; Walter Graham, guest speaker.  
PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP - Millard Fuller, presiding; Rev. John Pickens, guest speaker and leader.  
MINISTERS' FELLOWSHIP - Supt. Erstan M. Butterfield presiding; Dr. W. H. Dennis, guest leader.  
3:30 P. M.—Moments with the Chaplain  
3:45 P. M.—Business Session: Presentation of reports.  
4:30 P. M.—Recess for 15 minutes.  
4:45 P. M.—Reports from Fellowships - Rev. Lowell A. Smoot presiding.

5:30 P. M.—Recess

6:00 P. M.—Convention Bonquet - featuring "Reports from the Field"; Toastmaster, Dr. A. R. Van Cleve  
8:00 P. M.—Moments with the Chaplain; Chancel Choir of the Lanett Church  
8:15 P. M.—Dr. Warren H. Denison - "Christian Stewardship"  
8:45 P. M.—Presentation of Proposed Plan for Autonomy for the Southeast Convention (to be voted upon Sunday morning).  
9:15 P. M.—Preview of film' "The Beginning"

### Sunday, May 16

9:00 A. M.—Moments with the Chaplain  
9:15 A. M.—Business Session  
10:30 A. M.—Recess  
11:00 A. M.—Morning Worship, led by the host pastor, Rev. Joe A. French  
Convention Sermon, Rev. Arnold Sloter  
12:15—Box Luncheon  
1:30 P. M.—The Services of Dedication:  
The Superintendent's message: "The Call to Service"  
Installation, officers and committees  
Service of Remembrance  
Holy Communion  
3:00 P. M.—Adjournment